(c) whether it is a fact that nearly 600 civilian employees of the Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat have been deprived of 25 per cent special duty allowance; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir, but only common cadre people. Staff holding local posts are not normally transferred.

(b) The Government while issuing orders for the grant of 25 per cent special duty allowance have laid down the following criteria:

(i) Common recruitment;

(ii) Common seniority on all India basis, and

(iii) All India transfer liability.

(c) and (d) All India common cadre staff posted at Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat belonging to Administrative, Finance and Accounts and Stores and Purchase Cadres etc. who fulfil the above criteria are being paid special duty allowance. Other employees of the Laboratory do not fulfil these criteria and hence are not eligible for grant of this allowance.

Setting up of a postal circle in Assam

310. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a full-fledged postal circle in Assam;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Department of Posts considered the need for a higher level officer to direct and co-ordinate the Postal activities in Assam region and has decided to create a post of Additional P.M.G. at Gauhati and the post will be filled up shortly.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of powerful TV transmitters in Assam

311. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the towns and rural areas in Assam are not covered by T.V. network; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for powerful transmitters being set up in the district towns of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The existing high power (10 KW) TV transmitter at Guwahati and low power (100 Watt) transmitters at Silchar, Dibrugarh, Tezpur and Nazira are providing coverage to about 43.5 per cent population of Assam.

(b) Installation of two high power (10 KW) TV transmitters at Silchar and Dibrugarh (in replacement of the existing low power (100 W) transmitters) and three low power transmitters at Jorhat, Diphu and Kokrajhar are under implementation in Assam. On completion of these schemes, by 1987-88, the TV service is expected to be available to about 80.8 per cent population of the State, subject to terrain conditions.

सरकारी कर्मचारियों को देय अवकाश और छुट्टियां

312. **श्री मीर्जा इर्शादबेग** : क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :